FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE 223-YEAR HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, THE NEXT CENSUS IS GOING TO ASK MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT RACE, BUT NONE ABOUT MARITAL STATUS. THE ANTI-FAMILY FORCES HAVE FINALLY DOMINATED. THEY HAVE PERSUADED AN ENTIRE CULTURE THAT RACIAL ORIGIN IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE MADE A DECISION TO PLEDGE YOURSELF TO YOUR SPOUSE AND CHILDREN.

THIS SHIFT HAS NOT OCCURRED SUDDENLY. FOR YEARS WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT EVERYTHING WE DO IS A CONSEQUENCE OF OUR GENETIC PREDISPOSITION. WE ARE TOLD THAT THOSE WHO DRINK DO SO, NOT BECAUSE OF A CHARACTER WEAKNESS, BUT BECAUSE THEY HAVE A GENETIC PREDISPOSITION TO ALCOHOLISM—IT'S UNAVOIDABLE. WE ARE TOLD THAT IF YOU GAMBLE, WHY, DON'T BLAME YOURSELF. YOU ARE MERELY ILL. YOU HAVE A GENETIC PROBLEM! TO THESE SO-CALLED EXPERTS WHO HAVE MORE TO DO WITH PROPAGANDA THAN WITH SCIENCE, GENETICS IS DESTINY. YOUR GENES MAKE YOU DO ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING YOU DO. WE ARE EVEN BEING TOLD THAT THE HOMOSEXUAL LIFESTYLE IS MERELY THE INEVITABLE AND INESCAPABLE CONSEQUENCE OF GENETICS. HOW STRANGE THAT BIOLOGY "MAKES US" ENGAGE IN GAMBLING, ALCOHOL OR DRUG ABUSE, AND HOMOSEXUALITY, BUT IT MAKES NO SUGGESTION THAT WE MARRY AND REMAIN TRUE. HOW

STRANGE THAT BIOLOGY, WHICH THROUGH THE AGES HAS RELIABLY PUNISHED PROMISCUITY WITH ILL-HEALTH, MUST BE IGNORED WHEN IT URGES TRADITIONAL FAMILY AND SLAVISHLY FOLLOWED WHEN IT URGES SELF DESTRUCTIVE AND INDULGENT LIFESTYLES.

REGARDLESS OF THIS TRENDS, THE ANSWER TO MANY OF THE PROBLEMS OF SOCIETY IS STILL THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY. FOR EXAMPLE, POVERTY IS THE INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCE OF DIVORCE. IN ALMOST EVERY CASE, MEN DIVORCE AND BECOME RICHER, AND THE WOMEN THEY LEAVE BEHIND BECOME POOREER. OUR JAILS ARE FILLED TO OVERCROWDING AND OUR COURT SYSTEMS ARE CLOGGED BY THE MALEVOLENT ACTIVITIES OF YOUNG MALES RAISED WITHOUT FATHERS. YOUNG WOMEN WITHOUT FATHERS BECOME THE PREY OF THOSE YOUNG MALES. MANY OF SOCIETY'S ILLS COULD BE RESOLVED BY A RETURN TO THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY. ONE DAY IN THE FUTURE, A SANER AMERICA SHOULD PUT TODAY'S PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS ON TRIAL FOR THEIR RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT OF CITIZENS. THEIR FOLLOWING FASHION INSTEAD OF SCIENCE IS COSTING LIVES.

WITH THAT SAID, WHY IS IT THAT SO MANY PEOPLE DO NOT VIEW

MARRIAGE & FAMILIES
the traditional family with favor? Why is it that, in this very city, an institution that began with such promise fifty years ago has steadily proceeded in the direction of devaluing the traditional family? Is it because they are illogical people? Is it because they have never heard the arguments presented at this congress? No, my friends, it would be an error with the gravest of consequences to underestimate the adversaries of the traditional family. They oppose the traditional family not because they don’t get it. They oppose the traditional family because they do.

There are really only two ways to structure human society. The first is hub-and-spoke, where a centralized government relates to each individual in society. Alternatively, we can organize society in a familial way with millions of unrecorded interconnections and the ordinary mediating institutions of society interacting with one another, similar to the way that the human brain itself is structured. The first will always oppose the institution of family because it diminishes centralized control.

There are only two ways to answer these three important questions: where did we come from, where are we going, and what should we be doing? The second ideology answers the questions in this way. We are divine creatures touched by the finger of God, created in his image, and different from every other creature on earth. We came from a superior being, designed for a higher purpose. We are going somewhere better than here, a place to hope for and strive for. And we should do everything possible to help each other get to that place.

There is another ideology in the world that is every bit as doctrinaire, and to which people are just as ardently committed, as

Hence, redemption must come at the hand of government. And what should we do for problems that are too big for one government? Well, you know the answer to that.

But one thing is clear in this ideology: the family is not the solution. There is no need for the family institution, as proven by the rest of the animal kingdom. Since there is no other animal on earth that believes it is morally obligated to honor its parents, or even retain a long-term affiliation with its offspring, family is simply an ineffective, made-up idea.

Those that oppose the family do not oppose the family because they do not catch on; they oppose the family precisely because they do. That is why I believe that our World Congress of Families is performing such vital and critical work. It brings us all together and says race doesn’t matter. Race would only matter if we were animals. But for children of God, it’s what’s in the soul that counts, not the color of the skin.

So we have two conflicting ideologies, visions, or doctrines. One is that we are all children of God; the other is that we are all mere animals. That is the fundamental difference between these two doctrines. The natural consequence of these two visions is either the embrace of the traditional family or the vigorous rejection of that family.

Rabbi Daniel Lapin is a nationally syndicated radio host and president of Toward Tradition, an American movement to encourage Jews and Christians to support family values and the free market. Rabbi Lapin and his wife, Susan, have seven children.